

Final Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Review Feedback State of Arizona

Each State and Territory was required to submit a Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) to the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) by December 3, 2007 in accordance with the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program and the Homeland Security Grant Program.

The OEC, in coordination with DHS's Grants Program Directorate (GPD) and the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), facilitated a peer review process to evaluate and provide feedback on the SCIPs and PSIC Investment Justifications (IJs). Each SCIP and IJ was evaluated by three to six peers from the public sector (Federal, State, and local) having expertise and/or experience with emergency operations, interoperable communications, public safety, or grants management. OEC has compiled the comments of your peers and provided them in the following worksheet.

The peers received training on and have reviewed the SCIPs according to the [Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan \(SCIP\) Weighted Evaluation Criteria](#). The feedback is designed to assist States and Territories in continuing to enhance the SCIPs. The feedback represents the analysis and opinions of your peers. OEC strongly encourages States and Territories to incorporate the feedback where appropriate.

0. General Comments		
Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The format is confusing, as it does not parallel the review worksheet. It is difficult to locate specific areas at a glance, making it difficult to review. Include a Criteria Crosswalk. List the PSIC criteria as a separate section. Strengths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very well and professionally compiled. Very organized and cohesive. Good visual maps and tables and a good understanding. 		
1. Introduction		
Recommendations: 5 th to the last paragraph, sentence needs grammar correction – “Joining the statewide radio system would participate by using the statewide system or interfacing their system to it”. Strengths: Complete solution and direction “No entity will be required to join this system in order to share the benefits of statewide interoperability; therefore, this statewide radio system will be designed to interoperate with regional radio systems for entities that do not join the statewide system.” List of major emergencies by county (page 25).		
2. Background		
Recommendations: Some acronyms such as “AIRS” were not explained. Strengths: Great detail is provided on the demographics of the State and the maps and tables demonstrating the different sections are helpful.		
2.1 State Overview		
<i>Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Critical Sub-Element 1.1. Provide an overview and background information on the State and its regions. Include geographic and demographic information.</i>	Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs Additional Information <input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Complete information with good visual maps and tables.		
<i>Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Sub-Element 1.6 Identify any Tactical Interoperability Communications Plans in the State.</i>	Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs Additional Information <input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tucson Urban Area has no TICP. A plan needs to be developed or a reference to a timeframe for development should be included in the SCIP. Include goal information on page 42, even if a duplication. Strengths: Information and reference provided of the existing TICP.		
2.2 Participating Agencies and Points of Contact		
<i>Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Critical Sub-Element 1.2. List all agencies and organizations that participated in developing the plan. (List them according to the categories recommended for a communications interoperability committee in the All-Inclusive Approach section above.)</i>	Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs Additional Information <input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Expand the agencies and organizations to identify specifically who is participating. (i.e. City of X, who within the city). Also recommend working to get the other agencies		

to participate.

Strengths:

- Arizona has been working on plan for 7 years.
- Provided in a logical format with tables.

2.3 Statewide Plan Point of Contact

*Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. **Critical** Sub-Element 1.3. Identify the point of contact. DHS expects that each State will have a full time interoperability coordinator. The coordinator should not represent or be affiliated with any one particular discipline and should not have to balance the coordinator duties with other responsibilities.*

Pass

Needs Additional Information



Recommendations: Could include fax number in addition. Establish the full time coordinator as soon as possible.

2.4 Scope and Timeframe

Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Sub-Element 1.7. Set the scope and timeframe of the plan.

Pass

Needs Additional Information



Recommendations: Provide the scope and timeline for the plan.

Strengths: References to the other sections of the SCIP were important and meaningful.

3. Methodology

*Criteria: Methodology. **Critical** Sub-Element 3.1. Describe the method by which multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary input was provided from all regions of the State. For an example of a methodology that ensures input from all regions, see the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan, or SCIP, methodology developed by SAFECOM.*

Pass

Needs Additional Information



Recommendations: A process for gathering and obtaining input from all participants should be included. Stating that e-mails were sent out does not address the specifics of gathering this information. Explain how the information was gathered, evaluated, incorporated, and sent back out. Encourage more participation from the NGOs and from the Tribal Nations.

Strengths:

- Good details and dates of each step of the process.
- Well organized.
- Studies conducted identified the need to create an interoperability suite of radios (AIRS), the statewide needs analysis, and the Statewide Wireless Public Safety Solution Concept of Operations (ConOps).

*Criteria: Methodology. **Critical** Sub-Element 3.2 Define the process for continuing to have local input and for building local support of the plan.*

Pass

Needs Additional Information



Recommendations: The SCIP mentions that a process is in place, but sufficient information is not included as to how the agencies and jurisdictions are included and involved. In particular, Arizona should include more NGO involvement. All review criteria should be established prior to August 2008.

Criteria: Methodology. Sub-Element 3.3 Define how the TICPs were

Pass

Needs Additional Information

incorporated into the statewide plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Continue to develop the Tucson TICP.		
4. Current Statewide Assessment		
Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Critical Sub-Element 1.4. Describe the communications and interoperability environment of the current emergency response effort.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Track and assist with completing the Tucson TICP.		
Strengths: Very detailed. Existing and new plans identified.		
4.1 Governance Structure		
Criteria: Governance. Sub-Element 4.1 Identify the executive or legislative authority for the governing body of the interoperability effort.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Arizona PSCC is legislatively enabled and has oversight of statewide interoperability.		
Criteria: Governance. Critical Sub-Element 4.2 Provide an overview of the governance structure that will oversee development and implementation of the plan. Illustrate how it is representative of all of the relevant emergency response disciplines and regions in the State.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: A lot of information was provided but did not address how it is representative of all of the relevant emergency response disciplines and regions in the State.		
Strengths: PSCC was formed in April of 2000.		
Criteria: Governance. Sub-Element 4.3 Provide the charter for the governing body, and use the charter to state the principles, roles, responsibilities, and processes.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Well defined structure and participatory membership.		
Criteria: Governance. Critical Sub-Element 4.4 Identify the members of the governing body and any of its committees. (List them according to the categories recommended for a communications interoperability committee in the All-Inclusive Approach section above.)	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Include NGOs and private sector as PSCC members.		
Strengths: Inclusion of the law that establishes the "Governing Body."		
Criteria: Governance. Sub-Element 4.5 Provide a meeting schedule for the governing body.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: Governance. Sub-Element 4.6. Describe multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary agreements needed for decision-making and for sharing resources.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: SOPs and agreements provided as hyperlinks to reduce size of document.		
4.2 Technology		
Criteria: Technology. Critical Sub-Element 5.1 Include a statewide capabilities assessment (or a plan for one) which includes, critical communications equipment and related interoperability issues. At a minimum this should include types of radio systems, data and incident management systems, the manufacturer, and frequency assignments for each major emergency responder organization within the State.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





Ultimately more detailed information will be required to complete the documentation of a migration strategy. States may use the Communications Asset Survey and Mapping (CASM) tool to conduct this assessment.		
Recommendations: Need local and tribal government to enter their data into database.		
Strengths: Continuous review of assessment is in place. Provided all details of all systems.		
Criteria: Technology. Sub-Element 5.2 Describe plans for continuing support of legacy systems, and developing interfaces among disparate systems, while migrating to newer technologies.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Recognition of outdated equipment.		
Criteria: Technology. Sub-Element 5.2.1 Describe the migration plan for moving from existing technologies to newly procured technologies.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Flexible inclusion of those agencies upgrading their systems as they are able to fund the upgrade.		
Criteria: Technology. Sub-Element 5.2.2 Describe the process that will be used to ensure that new purchases comply with the statewide plan, while generally allowing existing equipment to serve out its useful life.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: A reference was made to other locations within the document; recommend making sure reader can find where this information was addressed specifically.		
Strengths: Recognizing it is important to create an interoperability and inventory tool.		
4.3 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)		
Criteria: Standard Operating Procedures. Sub-Element 6.1. Include an assessment of current local, regional, and State operating procedures which support interoperability.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Pre-existing SOPs and familiarity of them by agencies.		
Criteria: Standard Operating Procedures. Critical Sub-Element 6.2. Define the process by which the State, regions, and localities will develop, manage, maintain, upgrade, and communicate standard operating procedures (SOPs), as appropriate.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Well developed and inclusive plan. Detail of process in place.		
Criteria: Standard Operating Procedures. Sub-Element 6.3. Identify the agencies included in the development of the SOPs, and the agencies expected to comply with the SOPs.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: Standard Operating Procedures. Sub-Element 6.4. Demonstrate how the SOPs are NIMS-compliant in terms of the Incident Command System (ICS) and preparedness.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Local jurisdictions should track NIMS compliance.		
Strengths: Arizona delivers ICS training as part of its statewide training program.		
4.4 Training and Exercises Plan		
Criteria: Training and Exercises. Sub-Element 7.1. Define the process by which the State will develop, manage, maintain and upgrade, or coordinate as appropriate, a statewide training and exercises program.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Criteria: Training and Exercises. Sub-Element 7.2. Describe the process for offering and requiring training and exercises, as well as any certification that will be needed.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Current plan in place that is exercised annually.		
Criteria: Training and Exercises. Sub-Element 7.3. Explain how the process ensures that training is cross-disciplinary.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: The State offers a large number of classes to local responders and each are taught in classes that are cross-discipline and cross-jurisdictionally as a matter of practice.		
4.5 Usage		
Criteria: Usage. Sub-Element 8.1. Describe the plan for ensuring regular usage of the relevant equipment and the SOPs needed to improve interoperability.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations to Further Improve Plan: Grammar correction “one” should be “once”. Third bullet under Section 4.5 Usage – “This third section will discuss a plan that will be developed one the statewide interoperability solution is deployed.”		
Strengths: Most agencies currently use systems in place on a routine basis.		
5. Strategy		
5.1 Interoperability Vision		
5.2 Mission		
5.3 Goals and Objectives		
Strengths: Goals well laid out.		
Criteria: Background and Preliminary Steps. Sub-Element 1.5. Include a problem definition and possible solutions that addresses the challenges identified in achieving interoperability within the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: Strategy. Critical Sub-Element 2.1 Describe the strategic vision, goals, and objectives for improving emergency response interagency wireless communications statewide, including how they connect with existing plans within the State.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Need local and tribal government to enter their data into database.		
Strengths: Detailed information of objectives and goals.		
5.4 Strategic Initiatives		
Criteria: Strategy. Sub-Element 2.2. Provide a strategic plan for coordination with neighboring States. If applicable, include a plan for coordination with neighboring countries.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: Strategy. Critical Sub-Element 2.3 Provide a strategic plan for addressing data interoperability in addition to voice interoperability.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Mobile data requirements should be moved up in the priority matrix. This is a critical component of interoperable communications.		
Criteria: Strategy. Sub-Element 2.4 Describe a strategy for addressing catastrophic loss of communication assets by developing redundancies in the communications interoperability plan.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Recommendations: This section is covered in the Investment Justification requests. A plan for development if that request is denied should be included in the plan.		
<i>Criteria: Strategy. Sub-Element 2.6. Describe a strategy for addressing communications interoperability with the safety and security elements of the major transit systems, intercity bus service providers, ports, and passenger rail operations within the State.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.5 National Incident Management System (NIMS) Compliance		
<i>Criteria: Strategy. Sub-Element 2.5. Describe how the plan is, or will become, compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Plan.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: All agencies are required to be NIMS compliant.		
5.6 Review and Update Process		
<i>Criteria: Strategy. Sub-Element 2.7 Describe the process for periodic review and revision of the state plan.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Plan in place, but review does not take place until August 2008.		
Strengths: Process is inclusive of all agencies.		
6. Implementation		
<i>Criteria: Methodology. Sub-Element 3.4. Describe the strategy for implementing all components of the statewide plan.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Criteria: Implementation. Critical Sub-Element 10.1 Describe the prioritized action plan with short- and long-term goals for achieving the objectives.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Easy to view task schedule.		
<i>Criteria: Implementation. Critical Sub-Element 10.2. Describe the performance measures that will allow policy makers to track the progress and success of initiatives</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Does not spell out when or how often an update will be done. List performance measures as such, not metrics. This leads to confusion and additional time required to review the plan.		
Strengths: Detail of each initiative.		
<i>Criteria: Implementation. Sub-Element 10.3. Describe the plan for educating policy makers and practitioners on interoperability goals and initiatives.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: State when or how often an update will be given.		
<i>Criteria: Implementation. Critical Sub-Element 10.4. Describe the roles and opportunities for involvement of all local, State, and tribal agencies in the implementation of the statewide plan.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Criteria: Implementation. Sub-Element 10.5. Establish a plan for identifying, developing, and overseeing operational requirements, SOPs, training, technical solutions, and short- and long-term funding sources.</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Development of the full statewide system's budget.		

Criteria: Implementation. Critical Sub-Element 10.6. Identify a POC responsible for implementing the plan.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: This is the same individual as the interoperability coordinator. Though it is a long term goal to have a full time coordinator position, the coordinator should not represent or be affiliated with any one particular discipline and should not have to balance the coordinator duties with other responsibilities.		
Criteria: Implementation. Critical Sub-Element 10.7. Describe critical success factors for implementation of the plan.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengths: Identification of individual successes.		
7. Funding		
Criteria: Funding. Sub-Element 9.1. Identify committed sources of funding, or the process for identifying and securing short- and long-term funding.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Statewide system's budget has not been fully developed. Plan is still in progress.		
Criteria: Funding. Sub-Element 9.2. Include a plan for the development of a comprehensive funding strategy. The plan should include a process for identifying ongoing funding sources, anticipated costs, and resources needed for project management and leveraging active projects.	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Plan not fully developed.		
Strengths: Understanding the challenges and plan is somewhat dependent upon the total cost of ownership of the statewide radio system.		

PSIC Requirements		
Criteria: PSIC Requirements. Critical Sub-Element 11.1. Describe how public safety agencies will plan and coordinate, acquire, deploy and train on interoperable communications equipment, software and systems that: 1) utilize reallocated public safety spectrum – the public safety Spectrum in the 700 MHz frequency band. 2) enable interoperability with communication systems that can utilize reallocated public safety spectrum for radio communications; or 3) otherwise improve or advance the interoperability of public safety communications system that utilize other public safety spectrum bands	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: PSIC Requirements. Critical Sub-Element 11.2. Describe how strategic technology reserve (STR) will be established and implemented to pre-position or secure interoperable communications in advance for immediate deployment in an emergency or major disaster	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations: Several references are made to using the reserve caches of radios during daily operations. If these radios are assigned out, they will not be available during a disaster. Suggest maintaining a separate radio cache that could be used for special events and training, but not assigned out on a regular basis.		
Criteria: PSIC Requirements. Critical Sub-Element 11.3. Describe how	Pass	Needs Additional Information
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>local and tribal government entities' interoperable communications needs have been included in the planning process and how their needs are being addressed.</i>		
Strengths: Includes tribal entities.		
<i>Criteria: PSIC Requirements. Critical Sub-Element 11.4. Describe how authorized non-governmental organizations' interoperable communications needs have been included in the planning process and how their needs are being addressed (if applicable).</i>	Pass	Needs Additional Information
		
<p>Recommendations: More non-governmental agencies should be identified that will need assistance with interoperability. Some have been targeted, but more work should be conducted in this area.</p> <p>Strengths: Regional cooperation previously identified and established in some areas. The plan will establish hardware and a physical system to establish regional efforts in other areas.</p>		